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Remarks:

Regarding the objection to claim 19:

In this paper, the improperly numbered claim has been renumbered as claim 19.

Regarding the rejection of claim 8 under 35 USC 112:

In this paper, prior claim 8 has been canceled thus rendering the rejection moot.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 4348292 to Ginn:

In this paper, prior claims 1 – 15 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6720300 to Endlein:

In this paper, prior claims 1 – 15 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6440924 to Jeschke:

In this paper, prior claims 1 – 15 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6689223 to Meine:

In this paper, prior claims 1 – 15 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot.

Accordingly in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein, and in view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration of the propriety of the outstanding grounds of rejection and withdrawal of the prior art references from further consideration are solicited.

The applicant expressly reserves their right to reinstate the subject matter of any of the claims canceled in this paper at a later time, particularly as claims in one or more further

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divisional patent applications which may be filed during the pendency of the present application.

Should the Examiner have any question concerning this response, or believe that telephonic communication would meaningfully advance the present application to allowability, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at their convenience.

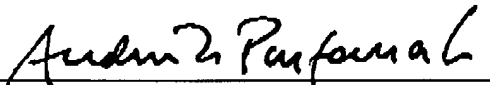
Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time

The applicants respectfully petition for a one-month extension of time in order to permit for the timely entry of this paper. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263 with respect to this Petition.

Conditional Authorization for Fees

Should any further fee be required by the Commissioner in order to permit the timely entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted;


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02 October 2006
Date:

Tel: 212 808-0700

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I hereby certify that this paper is being telefax transmitted to the US Patent and
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